



TIRANA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

T I F F

Alternative thoughts, similar Views

FAMA
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UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS OF ALBANIA

In T.I.F.F. '03:

"Alternative Thoughts, Similar Views"

The comfortable bar in the premises of Tirana International Hotel, gathers all journalists in these mornings. It is since two days that they start work with a coffee together..., perhaps they as well following the motto "alternative thoughts, similar views" slogan of the first International Festival of the short film which is since four days taking place in the Albanian metropolis.

Film authors, directors, but also outstanding artists of the Albanian cinematography come together to speak of a phenomenon treated by a film, and then to know those who have created the film and have seen in a different way the reality in the pellicle, but even with those who have for the first time known Tirana quite contrary to the wrongdoings they have heard about beyond the Albanian border.

Already concrete, the festival with all its structures has started to produce the ideas shaped in the mind of organizers and words said for the purpose of its organization are becoming more tangible.

"The quality of films is very good and interesting," Andrea Rocco, member of the jury, said on Wednesday morning, telling this way journalists one of the strong impressions he had.



"To me is important not only the projection of films but also the presence of so many people who love the film and who know how to make cinema in a city," he said.

Meantime, many Albanian filmmakers have the same expressed themselves positively on this initiative that, though private, has not been viewed with so many skepticism notes as it frequently occurs in similar cases. The communication is realized through the world, and in this presentation of films by more than 80 different conceptions, it can't help being present. The confrontation with another reality, but also forging of a friendship which could give birth to a new film, searching of ideas and their exchanging look evident while they are all together

with their alternative thoughts but similar views.

Giovanni Truppa, an Italian director who presented his film "Remains of Air" on Tuesday underlined the high level in selecting films and their qualitative projection realized in the digital technique. "There are many times when in festivals there are problems with the technique of film projection," he said, adding that "if this digital format is not transferred in the pellicle it becomes a problem."

He affirmed that "in the first day of the festival the projection of the films was of high quality indeed." And, while the morning coffee and the press conference passes very quickly, in the premises of Millenium 2 cinema begins the screening of the films along with

other emotions.

"In Separate Beds", a fiction from Spain where daily train passengers with old clothes sit in the empty wagons in the hope that tomorrow will be another day, the Serbian film "Vanishing" where Serbia grows older and villages are emptied, the animation "Stonecutter" which creates a couple, the Belgian film "Blind" where in a trip, a top model become blind links her destiny with her dog become mad, the Italian film "The Last Gunman" where someone roams in an abandoned plant, ready to grab the weapon, the French film "The Visitor" where they believe that love can be easily destroyed, the Canadian experimental film "Cocteau Cento" where it takes live a literary work from pieces of others works, are pieces of the life we live. The same interest was shown also for the films of the second session; the Spanish film "Lines of Fire" referring to the Spanish civil war of 1937, the Greek film "The Howker" where a peddler changes the life of a couple who owns a tavern in a village in Greece, or the other films. Now they are all of them together making the competition of this festival, found under the strict observation of the media and the juries.



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Interview with Luc Barnier, Member of Jury T.I.F.F. '03

Barnier: The Festival is a Great Nivel



Luc Barnier

He is one of the outstanding names of the French cinematography, participating for several times in Canne Festival (France) and the Festival of Venice (1995-2002).

- Un Certain Regard - Cannes, 1996; 1995 "Le cri du coeur". Idrissa Ouedra-ougo Official Selection in the Festival of Venice 1995; 1992 "Rendez - vous à Tirana" Liri Bégeja.

(Mention Spéciale du Jury / Prix Italia 1992) (Nominee for Golden Gate Awards 1993)

(Prix du Jury - Cannes 1991) 1990 Tilai. Official Selection Cannes 1990 (Grand Prix du Jury - Cannes 1990) 1985 Adieu Bona-part. Youssef Chahine. Official Selection Cannes 1985.

- How did you learn of the festival and what convinced you to become member of its jury?

- I know Ilir and Agron very well and when they told me about the idea of organizing an international festival of the short film in Albania, I liked it. They asked me whether I would like to be member of the jury in the festival and I found it very interesting. It is a pleasure for me to be part of the first jury of this festival, for which I would say that has been organized very well. I am also pleased with the fact that participating films are projected in "Millenium 2" cinema, with fantastic premises indeed and quite modern.

- Have you been part of a festival jury before?

- As a matter of fact this is the first time I am member of a festival jury. I have received many invitations in regard, but I haven't accepted to become part of any juries.

- How much do you know the Albanian cinematography?

- I know very little of it, but on the other hand I know many Albanian cinematographers. During the festival days I have

noticed that there are many talents. It looks like they have been linked closely with this cinematographic genre and in some way they find themselves there. The question is how to find ways to make more Albanian films.

- Has any Albanian filmmaker asked you for a cooperation?

- It is natural, a festival makes always an opportunity to establish relation bridge, as well as following cooperation chances. Over these days I have met again people I hadn't seen since times, like Gjergj Xhuvani, whom I saw for the last time in Paris while he was working on the latest film and I think he is a very good director. I have collaborated even previously with Albanian artists and we are expected to have other collaborations in the future.

- Could you tell us names?

- Well, I wouldn't like to mention any of them for the moment.

- Some young Albanian filmmakers have been presented in the festival with the experimental film. What do you think about this?

- I can't talk specifically for concrete films. There is a tradi-



Gjergj Xhuvani and Luc Barnier

tion in France forbidding to speak of films watched not only during the competition but also for a long period, therefore I won't speak of any film. I can only say that I find myself in a big dilemma to whom I could give my vote and this is the case for all the films projected so far, and not only for the experimental ones. The selected films are all of a very high quality.

- Besides the festival, is there anything else linking

you with Albania?

- I have come to Albania since 1991 and it is a very long story linking me to it. I would say that looking at Albania it is a country progressing at a surprising pace.

- In case another festival is organized the next year are you going to accept being member of the jury?

- (Laughing) No, as on the contrary I would have to become a permanent member of the jury.

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Today in Millenium 2

Artistic, Animation, Documentar, Experimental/Student in Third Day of Competition

1. Pluton Vasi - Albania

Between Idols (doc.)

20 min.



The artistic documentary brings up the inside history of Albania as it springs differently from and through the women's destinies.

2. James Hyslop - Canada

Maximum Capacity (fiction),

19 min.

In their journey where they try to find justice, revenge and redemption, two men emerge from the elevator having found tolerance.

3. F.Blondeau, Th.Deloof, J.Droulers, C.Stampe - France

Parenthese (anim.)

6 min. 12 sec.

A boy becomes aware of fact that time passes quickly.



4. Burbuqe Berisha - Kosova

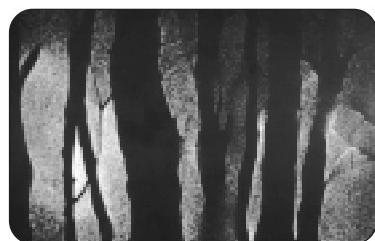
Kosova (fiction), 13 min.

The misunderstanding of the news of September 11th by a child causes a funny situation that turns into an absurdity.

5. Tailland Thibaund - France

Duelle (exp.), 8 min., 30 sec.

Two women meet for a duel. But instead of fighting each other themselves, they expel two men from their bodies. The two men do the fighting in place of the two women...



6. Dobromil Nosek - Poland

Interior (anim.), 4 min.

In this world the control that surrounds us everywhere is something natural or even stimulating for a human activity. The Chameleon from the movie wants to unify in contrary. It's his natural, mimetic feature. He wants to fit into his surrounding not to be recognized.

7. Frederic Mermoud - Switzerland

The Stairs (fiction), 22 min.

Rachel and Herve, two high school youngsters falling in love. They decide to run away to Normandy. All these story happens in the Rachels stairs.



8. Benjamin Kempf - Switzerland

Exit (fiction), 10 min.

Erika and Ruedi are the perfect couple. Erika has cancer and wants to die in dignity. Ruedi doesn't want to live without his wife. Everything is organized - but suddenly Ruedi isn't so sure anymore...



9. Teresa Mecklin - Finland

Fragile (fiction), 23 min.

A story about a man entangled in a past encounter, now

met by a new situation which reminds him that he must move on.

10. D.Stumpf & M.Lorenzi - France

Hope's Water (anim.),

4 min., 26 sec.

An old priest in a province is desperate for the draught that has destroyed its garden.



11. Ramtin Lavafipoor - Iran

Hederse (doc.), 23 min.

All children are playing, in the remote of village of Ana. They always play. And in the rainless year, they play "Hederse" with stone and date. A legacy from a forgotten ritual.

12. Karine Benhaïm - France

Garden Side (fiction),

6 min., 30 sec.

Love, friendship...life: a wide debate. Can an only man give answers to the big existential questions? Does he want to shake the minds or is he merely mad? But isn't madness an excess of consciousness...



13. Jean Antoine Charest - Canada

The Fall (exp.), 12 min., 55 sec.

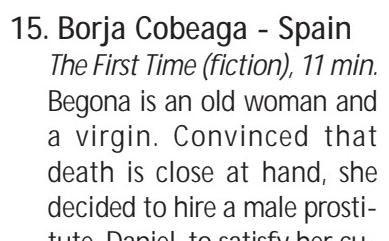
Dreamlike images which pay homage to the immense beauty of first gestures glimpsed during a fall. The Fall is a filmic poem which foregrounds the vulnerable moment when one abandons oneself, topples, loses their footing or their grip.



14. Andre Bergelt - Germany

Ina's Birthday (fiction), 13 min.

It is Ina Handel's 58th birthday and she strongly gets aware of her loneliness. In her birthday she makes projects of the way to commit suicide. The second attempt is prevented by 59yo fireman Karl. Between them starts a love story.



15. Borja Cobeaga - Spain

The First Time (fiction), 11 min.

Begona is an old woman and a virgin. Convinced that death is close at hand, she decided to hire a male prostitute, Daniel, to satisfy her cu-



riosity about sex, which everyone says is beautiful and marvelous. However this will not be an easy task for Daniel.

16. Ergys Faja & Bertrand Shijaku - Albania

The Love Time of Scorpions (anim.), 7 min., 45 sec.

An obsessive scorpion love that in the human analogy means violence, sex, fear from the females or perhaps... hidden



matriarchy! To live or not to live in the relations means... the same destiny.

OPINION

Besnik Bisha



Director

T.I.F.F. '03: Great Values for Albanian Cinematography

In my opinion, this international film festival is a confrontation of great values for the Albanian cinematography. Efforts made by Albanian filmmakers or film studios will have now a more well-defined vision. Only a confrontation of this kind can result in better ideas for a new production, because, as I have learned, these films will be screened also for the public. This is a very important element, as first, the Albanian public will be introduced to the developments of the world cinematography, and at the same time a different view will be presented on the participating films such as fiction, documentaries and animation.

*"Don't forget, we are here too"**Different standings, similar views**"How Cold in T.I.F.F."**T.I.F.F '03 is not better than "Albanian Herois"**All together in a line**"What on earth have you done to the translation Ilir..."*

A Grand Gala will Crown these Prizes:

The Best Film of TIFF**1st** 3000 Euro**The Best Fiction****2nd** 2000 Euro**The Best Animation****3rd** 2000 Euro**The Best Documentary****2nd** 2000 Euro**The Best Experimental/Student****2nd** 2000 Euro**The Best Albanian Short****2nd** 2000 Euro**The Public Award****1000 Euro****Media Award****1000 Euro**

Projection of the films in T.I.F.F '03

Session I

All the day, Time: 11.00 - 13.00
15.00 - 17.00

Enter for the public free

Session II

All the day, Time: 18.00 - 20.00
20.30 - 22.00

Enter for the public with tickets